

(Breakthrough, December 1986)

HEMI-SYNC® AND AUTO RACING

by Michael Keen

The following is an account regarding the use of the Hemi-Sync tape Concentration during practice by British race car driver Tony Trimmer, a British and European Formula 1 champion.

It was August 31, 1985. Practice was underway at Oulton Park for the British Racing & Sports Car Club's Thundersports Trophy Meeting.

Tony Trimmer, driving a Lola 70, was using the Hemi-Sync tape *Concentration*.

Earlier in the year at the same course, Tony's best lap time had been 1.13.00. The first time Tony went out, he came around the circuit at 1.12.9—Tony thought that was impressive.

Near the end of practice session number two in the afternoon, rain had started to fall and track conditions were slippery. Even so, Tony took the track record with a time of 1.11.9. Tony said he felt that a 1.11.00 might have been possible had it not started to rain. He was most pleased and said the possibility of reducing his lap time by a full two seconds over the period of a few months was remarkable when 1/10 of a second can mean the difference between the front row and the back row of grid start positions. Tony's wife said she had never seen him so relaxed during practice, with no sweating or hyper-speech symptoms.

Tony also remarked that he made fewer mistakes and that it just felt easy (189 mph easy?) and he had been a lot more consistent in braking and cornering. I believe that his lap record still stands today.

I know of two other drivers using the *Concentration* tape: Tim Jones in Formula Ford 1600cc and Slim Borgood, a Swedish Grand Prix driver.

Slim used it in the finals of the truck Grand Prix last year and beat the works Ford team, which had been a full two seconds faster in practice. As a result, a Swedish oil company renewed its sponsorship for another year.

I also know that in the RAC Rally last year the British Leyland team asked for the use of 6 *Concentration* and 6 *Catnapper* tapes for the car crews.

Michael Keen is a director of Mentronics Systems (UK) Ltd., distributors of Hemi-Sync tapes for the United Kingdom.

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